

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116
Application No. 09/902,957

B1 MCM-56 and the particles of said alkylation catalyst have a surface to volume ratio of about 80 to less than 200 inch⁻¹.

12. (First Amended) A process for producing cumene which comprises the step of contacting benzene and propylene under at least partial liquid phase alkylating conditions with a particulate molecular sieve alkylation catalyst selected from the group consisting of MCM-22, PSH-3, SSZ-25, MCM-36, MCM-49, and MCM-56, wherein the particles of said alkylation catalyst have a surface to volume ratio of about 80 to less than 200 inch⁻¹ and wherein the product of said contacting step comprises cumene.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the two sentences beginning at line 1 and ending at line 5 of page 2 of the specification and replace them with the following:

While preliminary testing showed limited advantages to using shaped catalyst particles, such as those disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 3,966,644 and 4,441,990, for liquid phase ethylation of benzene, surprising results were obtained with shaped particles used in liquid phase propylation of benzene to produce cumene.

A marked up copy of the first five lines of page 2 is included in the appendix.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to clarify that the product of the contacting step is cumene. Claims 1 and 12 have also been amended to incorporate a specific group of molecular sieve catalysts. Claim 3 has been cancelled.

The specification has been amended to correct a statement which was broader than intended.